

Come  
to  
Fun  
Nite

Happy  
Thanksgiving



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Fitchburg, Mass.

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Number 2

# CO-OP CONFERENCE HELD AT F.T.C.

## CAMPUS EVALUATED BY COMMITTEE OF EDUCATORS

On Tuesday evening, October 20th, the Joint Visitation Committee of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools arrived at the F.T.C. campus.

Dean C. Lee, Teachers College of Connecticut at New Britain, was chairman of the New England Association Committee and was accompanied by Dr. Ernest Stabler, Chairman of the Masters of Arts in Teaching Program at Wesleyan University. The American Association delegation was headed by Dr. Lloyd P. Young, President of the State Teachers College at Keene, New Hampshire. The other representatives were Mr. Frank Tisdale, also of Keene, and Dr.

George Andell, Acting President, and Dr. George Bond, Specialist in Elementary Curriculum, both from the State Teachers College in New Paltz, New York.

After dinner, the Visitation Committee attended a "Get Acquainted Coffee Hour" and met the faculty. On Wednesday, the visitors had lunch with the Student Co-Op officers, the dorm presidents, and the Commuting Group presidents. Wednesday evening, various faculty members had dinner with the educators; and at the Thursday luncheon, the evaluators dined with the student members of the Accreditation Standards Committees.

The educators spent the rest of their time interviewing stu-

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## ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE

On October 24th, and 25th, the first annual conference of the National Association of Public School Adult Education, as an affiliate of the Adult Education Association of U.S.A., was held at the Hotel Statler in New York City.

The conference was attended by directors of all larger public school systems, state representatives, officers, and a few directors from smaller communities, making a total of over two hundred persons.

This conference was a preliminary of the A.E.A. conference. The organization's first president, elected a year ago, was M. Evans, superintendent of adult evening school of the city of Los Angeles.

Fitchburg was well represented by Dr. Leonard, who was one of few from a teachers college, and Margaret Kietly, director of adult education in the Fitchburg public schools. Margaret Kietly was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the N.A.P.S.E. for 1954.

Other officers elected for the coming year were: President, Loy La Salle, director of adult education for Lansing, Michigan; Vice President, R. J. Pulling, head of Adult Education Bureau in New York.

During the conference, every topic concerning education was discussed at one time or another. The major topics were:

1. Question of methods and techniques. How can teacher training include methods and techniques suitable for the education of adults?

2. How can we give our teachers in service, training for adult education?

3. Can jobs in adult education be full time?

4. How do the public schools relate with other agencies or institutions in the community in adult educational programs?

5. Consideration was given to the formalizing of the curriculum and concern for suitable curriculum materials in adult education.

6. Development of field services for teachers and administration in adult education was considered.

The question of whether or not the N.A.P.S.E. should affiliate with the Adult Education Association was discussed.

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## GIRLS' CLUBS

The month of November is being highlighted by the Dinner Dances of the three girls' clubs on the campus.

On November 6th, the Philadelphians held their big affair at the Andover Country Club. The excellent music, fine food, and good company assured its success from the start.

Sterling Inn was the scene of the To Kalon Formal the following Saturday. In these attractive surroundings, members and guests alike, enjoyed a marvelous evening which will remain a pleasant memory for all concerned.

The Adelphians are also holding their dance at the Sterling Inn on November 21. The arrangements have been made to make their dance just as successful as the other two. All participants are eagerly awaiting its arrival.

## SENIOR ASSEMBLY

On Tuesday, Oct. 27th, 1953, the Senior class sponsored an assembly, "Academic Freedom" was the subject of controversy with Mr. Holmes, Dr. Michael and Mr. Hammond as guest panelists. The program was introduced by Judith Mann who lead the assembled group in the reading of a prayer based on Freedom. Richard Ferris introduced the panelists, and things were off to a roaring start.

The first question put before the panel was addressed to Mr. Hammond. He responded negatively to the question, "Is Education above investigation?" In continuation, Mr. Hammond referred to a statement by Senator Wayne Morse to the effect that the business of investigation is to see what laws should be passed to safe-guard our nation and the institutions which it possesses. The business of Education is to factually investigate that which is around us to ascertain the truth. Therefore the system of Education should be open to investigation, to be certain that outside forces are not unduly influencing the truth at which it arrives. We must remember though, that the right to investigate is a precious freedom to be guarded and used wisely and justly.

The next topic, "What affect has the Jenner committee upon Education?" was directed toward Mr. Holmes. He responded that he did not know—he could only speculate. He stated that the committee did not have all the powers of a court, such as a judge, or a jury. He went on to say that he questioned the Fifth Amendment, in that, by refusing to answer a question on the grounds that it might incriminate, you appear to be guilty whether or not you really are. It was reiterated that we have lost Democratic Freedom when we cannot criticize our Democracy.

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## ENROLLMENT

The freshman class is the largest this year, with a total of 140 students. Three are in the Special Classes Program.

The sophomores come next, with 117 students.

The juniors have the smallest class, with 71 members. Thirty-two are taking the Elementary course, 23, the Junior High course, and 16 are in Industrial Arts.

In the Senior class, there are 90 students, 33 of whom are Elementary; 31, Junior High, and 26, Industrial Arts.

Our total enrollment for the college is 418 students.

## DELEGATES DISCUSS SCHOOL PROBLEMS



Co-Op Conference in Session

October 23rd and 24th proved to be well-filled with purposeful and worth-while activity for the delegates to Fitchburg from the Massachusetts State Teachers Colleges. After registration, the students were welcomed by Acting President Ralph Weston. During a college assembly period, held between 11:00 and 12:00, Dr. Alonzo Myers of New York University delivered an excellent speech entitled, "Communication, Participation, and Democracy on the Campus." He discussed the idea that every campus has three colleges: (1) that seen by the Board of Trustees, (2) the one interpreted by the faculty, and (3) the one that is viewed by the students. Dr. Myers stated that students resent faculty superimposition of rules and laws. The best public relations ensue where students

feel that they are 100% citizens. He concluded that if treated as though one can be trusted, one will act that way.

Various panel discussions were held concerning the basic problems met with at Teachers Colleges and how to cope with them. Topics as "commuter interest in student activities," "how to establish more prestige for teachers colleges," and "how much power student government should have in college" were discussed. "How to increase school spirit," campaigning on campus" has been well evidenced here at Fitchburg by the recent demonstration at intra-mural soccer games, and the freshman-sophomore tug-of-war.

By living at our campus, and viewing the social as well as the academic life of our students, the delegates carried back with

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## OUTING CLUB

With the start of a new year, and many renovations on campus, we find that the Ski Club has also undergone a few changes.

As you know, many difficulties have come up in the past which made the planning of a good program quite a problem for this organization. One of the big reasons was our "crazy, mixed up" New England winters.

Therefore, a new charter has been drawn up, sponsors elected, a tentative program outlined, and the "spanking-new" title of Outing Club has been chosen.

The two sponsors, who will aid in carrying out the details of the program decided upon, are Miss Topping and Dr. Clark. Both these faculty members are extremely interested in the success of the club.

The first meeting of the Out-

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## REPAIRS

Students attending T.C. have been aware of the changes which are taking place around the campus in the form of construction work. Here are some of the facts concerning the repairs and construction.

The projects which have been completed or are still in the process of construction are:

1. A fence has been put around the tennis courts at the cost of \$1,975.

2. Fire proofing and miscellaneous repairs are being done. The price for this is \$195,000.

3. The old heating system is being renovated in the Elderly School. Cost: \$31,500.

4. Attractive tile is being quickly installed throughout the buildings on the campus. The price for this job is \$44,000.

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# The Stick



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## EDITORIAL

In an interview, Dean C. White of New Britain State Teachers College, one of the accreditors who visited our campus recently, remarked that he was very impressed with the spirit of the students at F.T.C. We were shocked! We thought of how we ourselves despair for a lack of reporters; we remembered the scantily attended dances of last year; we recalled the editorials of past years which accused the students of failure to support the social clubs and activities on campus.

As a matter of fact, we were thinking that this lack of school spirit would be a good subject for an editorial this year. Then, suddenly and miraculously, things began to happen.

The first big event of the year was the Halloween Dance. We expected to see only the faces of the few students who usually attend such affairs, and we were amazed to see great throngs of students there. A great number of these people were freshmen, and we were very happy that they had come (especially the two cute girls who appeared incognito). However, we were even more impressed by the number of upperclassmen who were dancing around the hall. We do hope that these students, some of whom had literally been strangers to F.T.C.'s social life, had a good time and will continue to support the college functions.

The major contributor to this social movement has been the freshmen class. Their enthusiasm over their class elections has put many of us upperclassmen to shame. We have noticed campaign posters appearing everywhere, from a sign in the library to a 3-D poster in the Spa.

We were bowled over by their enthusiasm over the tug-of-war. As yet we haven't quite determined whether the fervor over the struggle was due to true school spirit or a tremendous desire to rid themselves of the beanies—but in either case, they put on a show that really woke up their fellow students. Thursday afternoon, November 5th, the campus was at a quiet lull when the sound of drum and trumpet pierced through the still. We dashed to the front steps to see what the matter could be, and there were about fifty freshmen marching around the campus. The procession was led by three majorettes who were followed by a band which entertained the gaping upperclassmen with "When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again" and "Jingle Bells". It was evident that this parade had been carefully planned, and that the band had practiced for a long time. After marching around the campus for half an hour, they proceeded to the field where, amid cheers and songs, they quickly defeated the sophomores.

This, fellow students, is what we call school spirit! We could now rave on about letting the freshmen outdo the upperclassmen; or perhaps we could monstrate that it would be wise to continue and enlarge upon the enthusiasm that has been aroused. However, we feel that the freshmen, by their actions, have said more than we possibly could, should we write editorials on the subject for the rest of the year.

So, to the freshmen, we raise our beanies and say, "Thanks for helping us revive that which had so long been dead". We'll be looking forward to seeing what you'll do with the Carnival Ball.



## Melodic Lines

Paul Marcoux

What is happening to our music culture? This is a question that I have been asking myself many times, especially during the last few months. What is happening to the once high standards of our opera stars? But perhaps I had better start from the beginning.

With the coming of Rudolph Bing to the Metropolitan Opera, changes were expected—but what did happen was hardly expected. During his first year at the Met, Bing dismissed two singers whom people had thought of as part of the furniture. One of these (who had best remain unnamed) was a great Wagnerian tenor who had been with the company since the last years of Caruso. It is certain that his voice was not what it had been at one time, but he was still one of the greatest Tristans (*Tristan und Isolde*) of all time. The reason for his dismissal lay in this

very fact—he had become "too big for his breeches". Insisting that he knew the role, he flatly refused to attend rehearsals (which had been his policy under Johnson, Bing's predecessor). By so doing he violated his new contract, which specifically stated how many rehearsals he was to attend. Bing, without even batting an eyelash, informed him that his services were no longer required.

Fortunately for him, his popularity assured him a solidly booked concert tour, both here and abroad—but what happened? He cut short his concert tour and took a job singing in a nightclub! Now, hold on! I have nothing against nightclub singers, but Wagnerian tenors who turn to nightclubs to fatten their purses—ugh!

Recently, another world-famous opera star began taking

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by Peter Ginnity

It is said that everything in creation has a purpose, and is utilized in some fashion in the endless process of Man's and Nature's evolution. The humble and much-abused cliché, being part of our cosmos, must also have a function. Take the old chestnut, "Everybody talks about the weather, but no one does anything about it." Trite, you say. But before you look patronizingly down the aquiline contour of your patrician nose, consider one of the hackneyed stereotypes in common use around the campus. It has to do with how tough the courses are "this" semester. It is phrased in various forms depending on the rhetorical ability of the phraseologist. It sometimes has the tang of sea when the anchor of a sailor's verbal inhibitions has been lifted. Occasionally it will

contain the free-wheeling verbiage of the stvedore or the proverbial muleskinner. At Miller Hall it is probably echoed with all the niceties of precise diction as taught at Miss Prim's School for Genteel Females.

Nevertheless, no matter what the syntax, the colorfulness or vapidness of the language, the expression is shopworn, threadbare and stale. Abelard's question and answer kids of a thousand years ago were probably crying into each other's tunics as they said, "Oh, Brother, are things tough this year!" It seems almost sacrilegious to bandy around anything so venerable. Even a sharp retort like "Things are tough all over" is ineffective, because here, again, one has to resort to the trite. And two wrongs don't make a right. But that moral is trite too. See all the trouble this triteness can cause.

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THAT NEW ARCHÆOLOGIST FROM OXFORD IS OUTSIDE, S.R.

## Campus Chatter

by Dick Condon

Just the other day I chanced to overhear a conversation between two grasshoppers placidly basking in the sunshine atop the wall of our athletic field. The conversation went something like this.

"Hedda, I hope those noisy students don't come to every soccer game from now on. They disturbed my rest immeasurably."

"I know, Henry, but it did seem good to hear a little noise after the quiet of the past few weeks."

You can bet your life it did! I know a group of boys who appreciated it very much and played just a little bit harder trying to deserve it. Let's keep this new-found spirit alive during the whole school year.

This brings to my mind an incident which happened lately. Miss Clark and her female group of "Robin Hoods" arrived at the athletic field the other day intent on filling an immense target full of holes. Since the stand that holds the target was among the missing, Miss Clark asked Dave Murphy if he would take its place until it arrived. Murphy declined, and it turned out that directly behind or in front of the target was the safest place on the field. However, I checked the records and Miss Clark has yet to lose a student. Anyone for tennis?

Now for the big question of the week. "Can the thirst for knowledge overcome the industrial forces surrounding us?" Our fair college is now engaged in a great war testing whether any teacher or student, so conceived or so dedicated to learning, can long endure under the bombardment of the hammer.

The teachers are doing a wonderful job, considering existing conditions. Let's show them that the student body can do as well. "Save those worthwhile books, boys. Learning will rise again."

## LIBRARY

On October twenty-second, Dr. Leonard, head librarian, addressed the freshmen class and informed them of his theory on the use of our library. "The philosophical basis for a library at Fitchburg Teachers College," said Dr. Leonard, "is that this library is public property and, you, as students of F.T.C., are the public." In order to keep our library running smoothly, Dr. Leonard pointed out a few rules that must be followed.

1. All material including reference material may be borrowed for home use and may be kept for as long as is necessary or until someone else desires the same material.
2. This time should not exceed a month. An exception to this rule concerns periodicals. They may be borrowed for over twenty-four hours but for no longer than a week.

A student by unrightfully securing possession of a book, not only impairs the collection, but also handicaps fellow students. Dr. Leonard believes that a student is on his honor to the library and he may preserve this honor by maintaining respect towards fellow students and to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



## AFTER HOURS

Mr. Arthur C. Harrington

If you have been a student in one of Mr. Arthur Harrington's courses, you may know that he was in the Army during the First World War. More precisely, he was Company Commander of a recruiting outfit and feels that his military service was "undistinguished" because he didn't get overseas.

One of Mr. Harrington's most persistent hobbies is a "natural", historical research. He first became interested in this subject at the age of eleven, and has devoted many happy hours to searching for the curious aspects of the past.

Two other hobbies that blend with Mr. Harrington's interest in history are stamp collecting and book collecting. A member of the New England Stamp Club, he is particularly interested in old, genuine stamps, and in pre-cancelled stamps. His book collection is not limited to history books but to old books on many subjects. One of his favorite pastimes is rummaging through second-hand book stores. "It's not what you buy, necessarily, but what you see", explains Mr. Harrington.

At one point in his rich life, Mr. Harrington was trying to grow every edible fruit that could live in this climate. With a twinkle in his eye, he explained that he finally gave up this hobby because the first plants were dying as he was caring for the newer plants.

Mr. Harrington is also an amateur carpenter. During past years, he added three rooms to his home, which he built himself. Although his experience is limited, one of his feats is rebuilding fireplaces.

Research, stamps, books, plants, and carpentry have been avocations that have filled a happy life, but his most important means of relaxation now is spending his time with his seven young grandchildren.

## OUTING CLUB

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ing Club was held October 28, and many suggestions were given by the enthusiastic group. Such ideas as a square dance, a bus trip to Wachusett Mountain followed by a hike up the side of the mountain, a singout and a cookout at Cogshall Park, horseback riding, ice skating, tobogganing, and, naturally, skiing.

It is hoped that many more students will show interest in this organization and join in the good times that will undoubtedly be forthcoming as members of the Outing Club.

## FRESHMAN ELECTIONS

The Freshmen elections were held Nov. 5th in the auditorium. Pres. Phil Tardano Vice Pres. Mary Moran Treasurer Lawrence Blakely Secretary Carol Dobie Co-Op Gail Canegallo James Connolly



DICK DAVIS

## M.A.A.

The Falcons started off the 1953 Soccer season by trouncing R.I.C.E. 5 to 0. The boys performed very well both defensively and offensively. Dave Murphy turned the hat trick by getting three goals plus one more for good measure.

Fitchburg traveled to Bridgewater for their next game. The Falcons matched Bridgewater's driving game man for man until the Tigers pushed across two goals to one for Fitchburg. This defeat broke Fitchburg's undefeated streak of 13 games.

Bradford-Durfee Tech visited Fitchburg on Friday, October 9, and were drubbed by the Falcons to the tune of 6 to 0. The boys played their best game of the season, with Nelson Rebello leading the attack by getting 2 goals in three minutes.

For the fourth game of the season Fitchburg traveled to Keene. But even with all the support from the many fans who went to the game, Fitchburg was unable to push a goal across. Their fine play, however, kept Keene from scoring and the tilt ended in a scoreless tie.

Bridgewater arrived at Fitchburg October 16 for a return game. The Falcons, with revenge on their minds, went all out for the contest. When the final whistle had blown, the game was tied at 1 to 1. Two five-minute overtimes had been decided on and during the first one Fitchburg pushed across two goals and went on to win the game 3 to 1. The victory broke Bridgewater's undefeated streak of 15 games.

The support of the team at the games has become increasingly better. Let's keep up the good work and get still more and more out there to cheer the team to victory.

## NEWMAN CLUB

The members of the Newman Club are very fortunate this year. Rev. Father O'Brien, the new curate of St. Camillus, has become their new chaplain; and he has also given permission to use St. Camillus as the Newman Club Center.

The sponsor, officers, and Father O'Brien have met and, after much consideration, have come up with a program outlined through January.

On October 28th, the Newman Club presented Father Caperano, who spoke about "Sanctuaries in Italy". This was a most interesting topic, and Father Caperano was found to be a good-humored individual, besides being a well-versed speaker.

November 18th will be a most important evening for all Newmanites. St. Camillus will be dedicated as the Newman Club Center. Many other club members from Worcester County are expected to be there for the occasion.

Holy Hour followed by a coffee hour at St. Camillus will be held in December. January will be highlighted by a Spaghetti Dinner on the 20th.

This promises to be a big year for the club so don't regret missing these events afterwards.

## UP ON THE HILL

by Sonia Satsuk

First, I would like to extend greetings to the new group which has come to Burbank. These 24 members have banded together as a class and have chosen Nancy Gillis as Chairman and Marie Maculewics as Class Treasurer. A very fine choice, don't you all agree? We wish these students the best of luck as they embark upon their chosen career.

Of course, the usual initiations were begun, and the good sportsmanship which was shown by the freshmen is to be remarked upon. They gaily performed the daily tasks and accepted the advice, suggestions and criticisms which the sophomores heaped upon them. However, they were rewarded at the well-earned combination Halloween - Initiation party which was held at the Burbank Nurses' Home on October 29th. The auditorium was gaily decorated with the traditional black and orange skeletons, witches and leering Jack O'Lanterns. Entertainment provided by Captain Kidd, realistically portrayed by Betty Dudley, and the Pirate Band presided over all the proceedings. All in fun, the offenders presented their cases before the judge and jury, sentences were passed, and punishments were administered. Later, refreshments were served. The various committees were headed by Beth McKenna, refreshment; Sonia Satsuk, decorations; and Betty Dudley, refreshments; Sonia Satsuk, decoration; and Betty Dudley, decoration. The sophomores arrived in September after a deserved four week vacation, ready and willing to resume their studies. We lost one member during the summer session, for Nancy Mahoney left us in August to be married. Our congratulations and best wishes go to her.

Congratulations are also extended to Helen Lewis, Helen Byrne, Joan Douthwright, Lois Hall and Nancy Matheson, who were recently initiated into the Tokalon Society, and Dorothy Vandresser, Adelphin.

In September, the annual all-school picnic was held on the Burbank athletic grounds, and there was fun and laughter as we crowded around the fire to roast wienies, toast marshmallows and feebly attempted to keep warm.

The height of the fall season came as the Freshman Nurses pitted their efforts against the Sophomore Nurses in a hockey game. After a long, drawn out battle, the freshmen bowed gracefully in defeat, and as the final whistle blew, the score stood Sophomores 4; Freshmen 0. Mary Lee Reynolds, forward, who so brilliantly led the attack, scored ooth goals.

## CO-OP BUDGET

The Co-Op is sending out a plea to all students who have not as yet paid their Co-Op dues. The need for 100% collection of dues is greater this year than it has ever been.

The enrollment at F.T.C. has decreased one hundred students since last year. Also, the insurance rates for coverage of sports participants has increased considerably. Despite the reduced income and increased costs, the Co-Op hopes to provide as many activities and as much support for the various organizations this year as it did last.

The budget will be announced in the next issue of *The Stick*. In the meantime, if you haven't paid your Co-Op dues, do so immediately.

BETTY LIPS



## W.A.A.

If you happen to see a muscle-bound gal running toward the athletic field don't be alarmed. It's just one of those super-duper field hockey players rushing to practice. The muscles are the results of the long hard practising on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Those Freshmen gals are really getting into the swing of things. Without a doubt they have so much pep and vigor that even some of the upperclassmen get winded before they do.

We have been practising drills and also playing the game of field hockey, trying to get in condition for the annual playoffs of the Green and White teams. With the mention of the Green and White teams, I might add that this year there seems to be more of a competitive spirit between the two teams.

Archery has started and all the cupids can be seen shooting arrows—no, not at the target. It seems a few cars by the Industrial Arts Building have become slightly damaged. I fear. Also I believe I should give pedestrians fair warning. Until the girls become more skilled, I would advise you to wear some sort of armor, or you might find a hole in your head some one of these days.

A W.A.A. Conference was held at North Adams Teachers College the weekend of October 16th. Sa Brennan and Carol Lynch were delegates from Fitchburg. Miss Clark also was invited to attend, along with faculty advisors from the other colleges that attended the conference.

Field Hockey was played Friday afternoon and a square dance was held Friday night. To start Saturday morning off right, the group climbed Mount Greylock. They had lunch at the top of the mountain and then trudged downward. Among some of the other activities at the conference were panel discussions on many different subjects pertaining to the W.A.A.

## DRAMATIC CLUB

"Dramatic Club" has become a popular name on campus thanks to the efforts of the officers of the club and the faculty advisor. The second meeting of the club was held on October 14th, and after a brief business session, the club presented a dramatic reading of a one-act comedy, as a laboratory play.

To introduce the play, President Peter Ginnity briefly explained the nature of dramatic readings, pointing out that through the efforts of men like Charles Laughton this medium has gained steadily in popularity. "John Brown's Body" and "Don Juan in Hell" were cited as examples.

The production, which was given with the readers seated on high stools in front of the curtain, was the first of a series of bi-monthly presentations to be given as the feature of the Club's meetings. The play was produced and directed by Paul A. Marcoux, Vice-President of the Club, under the general supervision of Mr. Shepherd, faculty advisor. The readers were Miss Arlene Luoma, Miss Louise McKellick, Mario Caiazzi and Paul Marcoux, who substituted for Raymond Duquette due to the latter's unforeseen absence.

The comments of the audience were most favorable and Mr. Shepherd thought it an excellent method of discovering the potentialities of individual members for purposes of casting in future plays.

Speaking of future plays, the Dramatic Club is already planning its biennial production, to be presented this Spring. The question of selection was an acute problem this year due to various extenuating circumstances; but after rejecting literally hundreds of plays, one has come under consideration which is admirably suited to the situation. It is an oriental play done in the Chinese tradition, entitled "Lady Precious Stream" by Hsuehling. This play, written some years ago, is world famous. It is not a translation, but the author, already famous as a playwright in his own tongue, wrote "Lady Precious Stream" for English speaking audiences. It is a charming, naive play, which concerns the affairs of the Prime Minister of China and his youngest daughter Precious Stream, her unfortunate marriage and the machinations of a villainous brother-in-law.

SOCCER TEAM



## THE CAMPUS SPA



## MELODIC LINES

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engagements in the night spots of Las Vegas. She received publicity which ran along the following lines: "So and so used her Wagnerian gestures to advantage last night when she belted out the 'St. Louis Blues' for a 'distinguished' nightclub society."

How do these great voices justify their actions? Well, they maintain (after noting that the financial end of it is quite rewarding in itself) that opera has become too "snobbish" and that they, in a true pioneer spirit, are bringing opera to the masses. All I can say to that is, "Piffle." Is this the way to bring culture to the masses? Should not the people be educated to rise in response to the finer things? Or, should the arts bow to the whims of nightclubbers?

You'll pardon me. I'm sure I seem vehement, but let us further analyze this problem. What are its implications? I am not attempting to place opera in an ivory tower—on the contrary, opera is for the people. If you will take a closer look at the history of opera, you will discover that the majority of the popular works were written for the common man. It is only in America that opera has taken on its rather unbecoming aristocratic atmosphere. However opera is an art, perhaps the most noble and complete of all the arts. Is it to degrade itself by submitting to mercenary ends? Opera, in this country, has never been a moneymaking proposition. Those who enter the field do so with a full knowledge of this fact. How then, can these people after establishing a fine reputation, "go popular"? I don't know, but I hate to think of what might happen if this new mania became infectious.

What are your opinions on this question? I'd like to hear from you. Leave a note in Box No. 292.

## ASH TRAY

(Continued from page two)

If people would only suffer in silence—oops—another cliché. Of course, a built-in "Crying Room" might be the solution; that shouldn't be too much trouble with all the alterations going on. It could be replete with crying towels with markings designating the various courses. The markings would have to be distinct so that a student having trouble with Sophomore English, for instance, would not cry his heart out in a Biology or Philosophy towel. That would be farcical.

But, getting back to the opening statement of this little essay—about everything in the world having a function, even the cliché. Well, the cliché has now fulfilled its destiny. It has furnished the material for this issue's Ash Tray. Its hard to find time to do any research for the column this semester. You should see my schedule! Do you know what Mr. ——— expects us to hand in? Well, anyway, it's tough. Ain't it the truth!

## ACCREDITATION

(Continued from page one)

dents and faculty, observing in the training schools, and looking over records, the building, and classes in session.

When asked in a personal interview what most impressed him about the Fitchburg campus, Dean Lee replied, "I am very impressed by the wonderful spirit of both the students and the faculty on your campus." More particularly he said that he especially admired the Nursing and Industrial Arts programs.

Further he commended is the library budget. Educators have set a figure which they feel to be the goal to be expended on books by a college on a per capita basis, and Fitchburg has nearly attained this standard.

Dr. Lee was very cordial and said that he had enjoyed his visit to the F.T.C. campus.

The final outcome of the evaluations will not be known until December when the associations have their national conferences and decide upon the schools to be accredited.

## ADULT EDUCATION

(Continued from page one)

The N.A.P.S.E. is now made up of members of A.E.A., who wanted an opportunity to talk with people who are in adult education.

Anyone who has taught, or is teaching, is administering, or has administered adult courses, is eligible for membership in this worthy Association.

## REPAIRS

(Continued from page one)

There is still some work yet to be done, such as:

1. The renovating of the masonry in the Industrial Arts Building. A major job of renovating will also be started on the roof of the building in the near future. Cost: \$30,000.
2. New boilers, which will furnish oil heat in place of the present system of coal heat, are going to be installed in the Administration Building. Cost: \$66,000.
3. Palmer Hall is going to have all new plumbing installed soon. Cost: \$65,000.
4. Re-wiring of the entire lighting system will get underway soon. \$66,000.

All these improvements and additions to the buildings on our campus will contribute to its appearance and the safety of the student.

The student body will benefit from these new, modern conveniences.

## CO-OP CONFERENCE

(Continued from page one)

them a deeper understanding of the activities of a sister college. Meeting similar problems here and exchanging ideas with the other visitors, it is hoped, provided greater insight to the management of particular school affairs.

## SENIOR ASSEMBLY

(Continued from page one)

The next question, "Are there fears being placed in teachers from these investigations which under proper expression?" was very adequately answered by Dr. Michael. He said that schools can critically analyze as long as they do not advocate the overthrow of the government—unless a teacher does not do this, there should be no fear of alienating the teachers.

The next topic, "Should Communism be taught in the schools?" was viewed in the following way. Communism should be taught about— you cannot night what you do not know. A way to preserve Democracy is to learn what weaknesses other governments notice in it and then correct these weak places. It is imperative for the future being of Democracy that we know about Communism.

At this point the question, "Should school libraries carry subversive material?" was introduced. It was thought that we pro and con of the subject should be read and then sifted for facts. These books should not be put into the hands of just anyone, but only those who can discriminate the biased from the unbiased.

The final topic, "Is it in accordance with the freedom of religion guaranteed by the First Amendment and the recent decision of the Supreme Court regarding the teaching of religion in the public schools, for a teacher to introduce into a lesson or class discussion the Doctrine, Religious History and Life Interpretation of his particular church; and to imply that those who attended other churches have neither the True Faith nor acceptable Authority for their beliefs or actions?" was handled quite thoroughly by Dr. Michael. The first thing he pointed out was that according to the First Amendment, a person had the right to go to the Church of his choice, or NOT to go to Church. It was felt that you should not force your religion upon the children; but as in the case of American History, to understand the Colonial Period, you must know the development, evolution and affects of religion.

The question "How free is academic freedom?" was summed up in the following statement; it is free up to the point of scholarly inquiry and limited by the absolute moral conviction of truth based upon facts after full investigation.

## GLEE CLUB

It was not long after the opening of school, that the Glee Club held its first rehearsal. In addition to its regular members, the freshman turnout was good. According to Mr. Kent, the director, this year's Glee Club indicates two definite trends, a fairly even distribution of voices and the makings of a good choral group.

As you probably remember, last Spring the Glee Club produced its biennial performance, Wilder's "The Lowland Sea", a new American operetta, which was very well received. This year the club plans two assembly programs, one at the Yuletide Season and the other in early Spring.

The efforts of the group are by now completely turned over to the Christmas Assembly. On December 8th, they will give a performance of excerpts from Handel's, "The Messiah".

Mr. Kent has announced that the guest soloists in the work will be soprano, Miss Lucille Dextraze and tenor, Mr. Daniel Healy. The entire concert will be accompanied by Donald Wilcox, noted local pianist.

Miss Dextraze is a native of Fitchburg and received her vocal training at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. She is at present teaching voice at the Fitchburg Music Studios.

Mr. Healy, noted campus personality, is a graduate of Boston College. He received his Mus. B. degree at Curtis Institute and his Ed.M. at State Teacher's College in Hyannis. Although Mr. Healy is connected with the English Dept. at this college, he has wide experience in the field of music and still teaches voice in the privacy of his home.

Mr. Wilcox is well-known in this city and surrounding areas as a church organist, choir director, and an able accompanist. He is also known for his work as choir master at Christ Church and for his piano teaching.

Plans for the Spring Assembly are already in progress but are still too premature for discussion.

## SOCIAL CALENDAR--1953-54

November	
6	Philodemical Formal
14	ToKalon Formal
20	Freshmen Welcome Dance
21	Adelphian Formal
December	
1	Fun Nite
4	Christmas dance—All school
10	Dormitory Christmas parties
January	
14	Freshmen Tea (Women)
29	All School Dance -- School Daze (Adelphian Society)
February	
12	Carnival Ball (Freshmen Class)
13	Carnival activities
March	
19	St. Patrick's Day Dance
April	
23	Junior Prom
27-28	Dramatic Club Presentation
May	
14	Esoteric Dinner Dance
18	College Picnic
19	" " (Alternate date)
22	Gav-Hawk Formal
24	WAA Banquet
June	
2	Sax Dance
11	Senior Prom
12	Commencement weekend

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